

CLAIMS INDEX

1. (ORIGINAL) A prosthetic assembly for use between adjacent vertebrae, said assembly comprising a top component having a first side adapted to engage the lower side of a first vertebra, and a bottom side having a concave portion thereon;
a middle component having a first side with a convex portion thereon adapted to engage said concave portion, and a second side; and
a bottom component having a first side adapted to engage the upper side of a second vertebra, and a second side adapted to removably receive said middle component.
2. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said middle component is slidably received by said bottom component.
3. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion has a constant radius.
4. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion has a varying radius in at least one direction.
5. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion has a varying radius in at least two directions.
6. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said bottom side of said top component has at least one raised portion adapted to receive bone ingrowth.
7. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 6, wherein said raised portion has at least one surface that is inclined relative to a vertical direction.
8. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said convex portion extends above a generally flat surface and is surrounded by a groove that extends below said generally flat surface.
9. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein said intermediate portion has an anterior edge and a posterior edge; and

said convex portion has a center of radius that is closer to said anterior edge than it is to said posterior edge.

10. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 1, wherein
said intermediate component has an anterior edge and a posterior edge, and
said intermediate component varies in height along a direction between said anterior edge and said posterior edge.

11. (ORIGINAL) A prosthetic kit for use between adjacent vertebrae, said kit comprising
a top component having a first side adapted to engage the lower side of a first vertebra, and a bottom side having a concave portion thereon;
a plurality of middle components, each having a first side with a convex portion thereon adapted to engage said concave portion, and a second side; and
a bottom component having a first side adapted to engage the upper side of a second vertebra, and a second side adapted to removably receive each of said middle components.

12. (ORIGINAL) A prosthetic assembly for use between adjacent vertebrae, said assembly comprising
a bottom component having a top surface, a bottom surface, an anterior edge, a posterior edge, two medial edges, and a generally concave portion on said top surface,
a top component having a top surface, a bottom surface, an anterior edge, a posterior edge, two medial edges, and a generally concave portion on said bottom surface; and
an intermediate component having a top surface, a bottom surface, an anterior edge, and a posterior edge; and
an upper convex part on said top surface of said intermediate component and a lower convex part on said bottom surface of said intermediate portion.

13. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein
at least one of said upper convex part and said lower convex part has varying radii in at least one direction.

14. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein
both of said upper convex part and said lower convex part have varying radii in at least one direction.

15. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein
at least one of said upper convex part and said lower convex part has varying radii in two directions.

16. (ORIGINAL) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein both of said upper convex part and said lower convex part have varying radii in two directions.